



# POLICE COMMISSION

49 Plumtrees Road, Bethel, Connecticut 06801 • Phone: (203) 743-5500 • Fax: (203) 748-1333

MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING  
BETHEL POLICE COMMISSION  
WEDNESDAY, SEP 21, 2016  
MUNICIPAL CENTER, 1 SCHOOL ST MEETING ROOM "B"

ATTENDING: CHAIRMAN MIKE DUFF  
COMMISSIONER ANTHONY RUBINO  
COMMISSIONER RICHARD KOLWICZ  
COMMISSIONER AMY MANNION  
CHIEF JEFFREY FINCH

ATTENDANCE: Police Officers 6  
Citizens 4

Chairman Duff opened the meeting at 6:05 p.m.  
The Commission pledged allegiance to the flag.  
First Selectman Mat Knickerbocker in attendance

Motion by Chairman Duff to include "Public Input" into the minutes as item 1a; seconded by Comm Rubino – unanimous.

Motion by Chairman Duff to delete "Executive Session" from the minutes; seconded by Comm Rubino – unanimous.

1. Review of Past Minutes

Motion by Comm Kolwicz to accept the minutes of 8/17/16; seconded by Comm Rubino – unanimous.

Motion by Comm Kolwicz to accept the minutes of 8/30/16; seconded by Comm Rubino – motion passed with Comm Mannion abstaining due to absence.

1a. Public Input

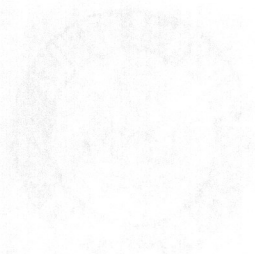
Laurie Martin of 113 Nashville Rd complained about speeding on her road now that it has been repaved. Trucks are the worst according to Ms Martin who also requested speed bumps as a possible solution. Chairman Duff stated that the Department ask Chief Finch to have Lt Dickinson conduct data collection concerning this problem and address it at the next meeting.

Guido Acottosanti of 9 Sycamore Ct complained about a neighbor creating a noise disturbance by the frequent revving of a car engine in a driveway close to 9 Sycamore. Mr Acottosanti has filed numerous complaints but lacking a noise ordinance, noise becomes a subjective judgement call and wants to know any other options before perusing a court affidavit. Chairman Duff asked that adequate

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2016 SEP 23 A 11: 01

TOWN OF BETHEL  
TOWN CLERK



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

INVESTIGATION OF ALLEGED VIOLATIONS  
OF THE FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
OF THE DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE  
WASHINGTON, D. C. 20535

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TO : DIRECTOR, FBI  
FROM : SAC, NEW YORK

RE: [Illegible] (NY 100-100000)  
[Illegible] (NY 100-100000)

On 1/10/64, [Illegible] advised that [Illegible] had been contacted by [Illegible] who stated that [Illegible] was planning to travel to New York City on 1/15/64.

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documentation of the issue be constructed. Matt Knickerbocker stated that a noise ordinance is scheduled be addressed at the next Board of Selectmen meeting.

2. Budget Report

a) Comptrollers Report

Chief Finch noted nothing remarkable. Several questions concerning line items were posed by Commission members.

b) Overtime Report

Chief Finch reported overtime as being \$18K more than last year-to-date. The Department is suffering several manpower shortages and overtime normally increases with the approach of the year-end holidays. Overtime is not expected to stabilize until January and February.

3. Old Business

a) Monthly Reports

Commissioners considered the packet of reports which the Chief noted as being "fairly routine". DUI's are at an "all time low". An additional report was included which shows Detective Bureau cases, open and being worked on. The training report was submitted by Lt Dickinson.

4. New Business

• School Complex – Whittlesey Dr.

Mr Larry Crabas of 15 Kellogg St speaking on behalf of the Board of Education, complained about speeding traffic through an educational complex heavy with pedestrian traffic. Mr Crabas also noted the overloud revving of engines behind grandstands during games and the many commercial trucks using Whittlesey as a cut-through during the bridge project. Everything needs to go slower and be "more manageable". The request was for the Commission and Department to consider another study on the situation and offer possible solutions. Chairman Duff stated that speeding is unacceptable at all times. Chief Finch stated that the only effective solution to speeding is having a police full time presence, which is unrealistic, or speed bumps or speed gates. The educational park would be more ideal than most locations around town to have speed bumps but the issue remains would speed bumps be overall desirable? Chairman Duff stated the Commission should instruct the Chief to conduct research and investigation and come back with recommendations. The request was made official by Comm Mannion.

• Freedom Isn't Free Ride – Sep 25<sup>th</sup> 2016, Sunday

This new motorcycle ride starts in southern Fairfield Cty and arrives in Bethel about 11:30. Two officers can cover intersections at Rt58 and at Wolfpits. Permission, necessary for a precession type ride, has already been granted by the State needing only local approval.

Motion by Comm Mannion to approve the Freedom Isn't Free Ride on 9/25/16; seconded by Comm Kolwicz – unanimous.

• General Orders – Firearms (3)

Three General Orders were discussed. Ch5 Sec3 "Firearms"; Ch5 Sec4 "Off Duty Carry" and Ch5 Sec5 "Retired Carry". Chairman Duff took issue with the questionable interchangeability of the terms "weapons" and "firearms".



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Motion by Chairman Duff to accept General Orders Ch5 Sec3 "Firearms"; Ch5 Sec4 "Off Duty Carry" and Ch5 Sec5 "Retired Carry", the words "firearms" and "weapon" to be modified according the Chief Finch's judgement; seconded by Comm Rubino – unanimous.

6. Correspondence

Numerous and varied correspondence as received during the month.

A letter of resignation from his position as Police Commissioner was received from Richard Barton. The First Selectman will nominate a replacement from the results of the Vacancy Committee's recommendations. This should be known by the next meeting. Chairman Duff will construct a thank-you letter to Mr Barton for the Commission's comment.

The Juvenile Court will be closing in Danbury. Bethel's cases will sent to Bridgeport.

7. Police Building

Final estimates from the Building Committee should be available for the next meeting.

8. Chief's Report

Off. Cordero is out with an injury.

The Chief's secretary remains out with illness.

G. Bryce and First Selectman Knickerbocker received their master's degree in Public Administration.

Two new women PO's Amelia Fekieta and Jessina Beamonte are in field training.

9. Commissioner Comments

Comm Mannion congratulated two new officers and thanked Off Cordero for his help with her recent identity theft case.

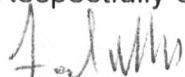
Commissioners Kolwicz and Rubino also offered their congratulations. Comm Rubino used the Hospital Ave (Danbury) pedestrian crossing as an example of what can be done using flashing lights to alert motorists and asked why this cannot be done in Bethel at the Dolan Plaza and the Cinema pedestrian crossing. Lt Dickinson noted that the State requires all crosswalks to be consistent throughout a given town. Chief Finch asked that the State be queried to allow only two crosswalks to be so lighted.

Lt Dickinson will submit the request.

Chairman Duff offered his congratulations to the two new officers and also addressed the issue of tinted windows in vehicles as a potential hazard to officers. Lt Dickinson stated that tickets have been issued in these cases with "inspection required" checked so DMV can decide on a case-by-case basis. Officers use a meter which measures reflection coefficient to decide on the degree of tinting.

At 7:08 motion by Comm Kolwicz to adjourn; seconded by Comm Mannion – unanimous.

Respectfully Submitted,



Ferdinand Miller Jr  
Secretary

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